

JEFFERSON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
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TOM LYTHGOE, CHAIR

CHUCK NOTBOHM

KEN WEBER

**PROCEEDING OF THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COUNTY OF JEFFERSON, STATE OF MONTANA
April 4, 2006**

Present: Commissioners Lythgoe, Notbohm and Weber; Rod Sager, *County Resident*; Gwen Mitchell, *Gwen's Subdivision*; Roxann Lincoln, *Prickly Pear Consulting*; Jan Anderson, *Boulder Monitor/Courier*.

CALENDAR REVIEW

- 4/4 Enhanced 911 - 7:00
- 4/5 Headwaters re: loan - 1:30
Watershed Meeting in Whitehall - 7:00
- 4/6 Meeting with MDT - 1:00
- 4/8 Meeting with the Mental Health Congress - Helena - 10:00
- 4/12 Meeting with JLDC - 2:00

COMMISSION REPORTS

EXIT INTERVIEW WITH THE AUDITOR

Commissioner Lythgoe reported on the meeting we had on Wednesday, March 29th in the Law Library of the Courthouse. The report was very good. There were a few small things that needed to be addressed. In the Treasurers Office there needs to be two signatures on all money transfers. Things of that nature. Sally Buckles also needed to be spoken with in regards to having a better understanding of her grants. She also needed to be sure that all documentation pertaining to the grants was filed on site.

BEAVERHEAD AND HELENA NATIONAL FOREST

Commissioner Lythgoe reported on meetings held on Thursday, March 30th with Beaverhead and Helena National Forest Groups. He stated that he felt very encouraged by the response from both Forest Groups, they seemed really willing to sit and talk about road issues pertaining to Jefferson County. He is looking forward to future meetings.

CENTURY 21 CLUB AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

Commissioner Weber reported that he had met with Mary Ellen Earnhardt at the Boulder Elementary School. She runs an after school program and a Century 21 program with the aid of a grant. Her grant is due to run out in less that 2 years and she is looking for other grants or sources

of funding to be able to keep the program active in Boulder Elementary School. Commissioner Weber stated that he got her into contact with Tom Harrington to explore different ways to keep this program and also possibly expand it to other schools.

SOLID WASTE MEETING

Commissioner Weber reported that on Thursday, March 30th he and the other commissioners had attended the Solid Waste meeting that was held in the courtroom of the Courthouse which was held to provide employees of Solid Waste to weigh in and comment on their feelings or thoughts in regards to the question of salvaging. The employees feel that it is tough to manage unless it is an all or nothing deal. This issue has still not been decided on due to the fact that we are trying to come up with a solution that helps the population and Solid Waste employees. This is a very hot topic. Just this morning it was discovered that the surrounding fence had been pulled down and one of the attendants was verbally assaulted and that a Sheriff's Deputy had to be called.

ELECTED OFFICIAL/DEPARTMENT HEAD CONCERNS

SUBDIVISION REVIEW

GWEN'S CORNER MINOR SUBDIVISION

The proposed subdivision is located approximately 1/4 mile east of Whitehall, Montana adjacent to Mormon Lane and First Road in the Northeast 1/4 of Section 3, Township 1 North, Range 4 West. The proposed subdivision is a three lot minor subdivision. It is proposed to subdivide the tract of land containing 5.066 acres into three lots ranging in size from 1.609 acres to 1.846 acres. There is currently a single-family dwelling on Lot 9-A.

The proposed subdivision is subject to the Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) sanitary restriction approval.

Parkland dedication is not required for the subdivision.

The proposed subdivision is located in the Jefferson Valley Rural Fire District, Whitehall Elementary School District No. 4-47, and Whitehall High School District No. 2.

All conditions of approval have been met. All staff recommendations are to approve the Gwen's Corner Minor Subdivision. Harold then introduced Gwen Mitchell the owner and Developer of the proposed subdivision. Commissioner Lythgoe asked if the board had any questions for her. There were none.

Commissioner Weber moved that the Board grant Final Plat Approval for the Gwen's Corner Minor Subdivision. Commissioner Notbohm seconded. Motion carried.

ITEMS FOR COMMISSIONERS ACTION OR REVIEW

PRICKLY PEAR CONSULTING

Roxann Lincoln wanted to address the board to present some grants that the county qualifies for. She stated that the board may very well be aware of the grants. She supplied the commission with a list of some grants that are available.

Commissioner Notbohm asked Roxann how long she has been in the grant writing business. She stated that she had been writing grants for approximately 10 years. Currently she is on contract with the Jefferson River Watershed Council, and she has been with them for a little over 4 years.

Commissioner Weber asked if he was reading the contract correctly and was right in assuming that the way it would work would be that should we identify a certain grant that we were interested in applying for that we would then contract her, Roxann, and she would then research the grant and then properly format and write it for the county for a fee based on the amount of work estimated and time needed to complete the job. Roxann stated that Commissioner Weber was correct. She stated that if the county is only looking to applying for grants here and there it would make more sense to do a pay as you need rather than pay for someone \$20,000.00 per year. Commissioner Lythgoe agreed that it would make more sense to pay someone per grant.

The commission thanked her for coming and speaking to the board.

LARRY JONES BOULDER CITY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF

Mr. Jones addressed the board to request help with funding the purchase of equipment that are used with the Jaws-of-Life unit that they have on their Rescue truck. The Jaws-of-Life is owned by the county and Mr. Jones stated that the Rescue One vehicle responded to approximately 24 calls last year. They used the Jaws probably twice and found that they did not have a lot of the accessories that would make the Jaws a more effective tool.

Commissioner Lythgoe asked if the staff involved on the Boulder Vol. Fire Department (BVFD) was made up of a lot of old timers or more new people. Mr. Jones stated that it was mostly old timers but they do have some new faces. Commissioner Lythgoe then asked if all members were currently trained on this piece of equipment. Mr. Jones stated that all were current in their training on the Jaws and that every three months he works with Megan Bullock to get a salvage vehicle to use for training. Commissioner Lythgoe then asked if there was a certain entity in like Helena that came and trained them on the equipment. Mr. Jones stated no, that when the company that the equipment was purchased from delivered the unit they did a training with BVFD. Mr. Jones was one of the original people trained and so he is now the lead trainer on the Jaws. Commissioner Notbohm asked if there is an official certificate of training that one gets for completing training on the Jaws. Mr. Jones stated that if there is he does not know about it. However he has a certificate of training that he received from the manufacturer that he successfully completed their course of training.

Commissioner Lythgoe stated that it would be something to bring up at the next fire council meeting. For liability purposes this is something that needs to be check on. Mr. Jones also stated that Sally Buckles said that East Valley Fire does a lot of training and would more than likely be willing to come and do training with BVFD.

Commissioner Weber asked how much more effective is the Jaws unit with the accessories. Mr. Jones stated that to take out a windshield it was 90% faster. Before they would have to use a saw to cut the windshield which made it unsafe for rescuers and victims. And if they chose to take the windshield out as a whole unit they had to cut it out with a pocket knife, which was very timely. With the new equipment they can take out a windshield whole in less than one minute. The chains that they purchased are used to wrap around the steering wheel and bumper to pull them out of a victims lap or even chest.

Commissioner Lythgoe asked if there were any further questions. There were none. He then stated that since it was not stated on the Agenda as a Discuss and Decide they needed to put it onto a future agenda and that the discussion of using Title 3 or 4 funding to reimburse the BVFD. Further discussion and decision was put onto the April 18th Agenda.

Mr. Jones then requested that the commission consider helping with the purchase of tires for the Rescue One truck. It needs six new tires at the cost of \$810.00. The commission stated that they would discuss it.

Commissioner Notbohm then asked if BVFD charged back to the insurance companies every time the unit was used. Mr. Jones stated that it was not done in the past however they are in the process of getting the paperwork in order to charge the insurance companies.

THE NORTHERN JEFFERSON COUNTY TRANSPORTATION INFRASTRUCTURE STUDY PRESENTATION WAS CANCELLED BY GREAT WEST UNTIL FURTHER INFORMATION COULD BE GATHERED. RESCHEDULED FOR APRIL 18TH.

HIRING A CONSULTANT RE: LEGISLATIVE STRATEGY FOR MINING AND PERMITTING

Commissioner Lythgoe stated that he had spoken to JLDC and they discussed approaching Ed Handle to ask him to pursue looking at the regulations in Montana for mining and developing some documents in support of continued mining to be presented to the Montana Legislature. And also looking at the permitting process through DEQ and developing a position paper on that to present to DEQ. He suggested that it be put on a future Agenda so that Mr. Handle could come and present his ideas and answer any questions that the board may have. Commissioner Weber stated that he thought putting Mr. Handle on a future Agenda was a good idea and that would give the board time to put collective thoughts down on paper with a definitive direction that the county wants to head. Commissioner Lythgoe requested that both Commissioner Weber and Notbohm put together lists of their own with issues that they would like to address with Mr. Handle. Commissioner Lythgoe also stated that he would like to invite MACO to also weigh in on the issues.

JEFFERSON COUNTY WEED MANAGEMENT PLAN

Sam Little addressed the board requesting that the commission adopt the revised weed management plan. He stated that state law requires that the county revise the weed management plan every two years. The last revised weed management plan was adopted in 1999 and expired in 2003. The one before that was adopted in 1994 and expired in 1995. The major changes that you will find in the new plan is that there is not a funding analysis for the chemicals and equipment use. This was not put into our plan as we do not know how much of these resources

we will need this year. After further investigation the Weed Board will have a much better idea of what will be needed and at that time will draft and present the commission with a budget. The second change is an appendix and pertains to the moving of forage in and out of the county. There will be a bill presented to the Legislature that will address the transportation of forage from a weed infested area to a non-weed infested area. Sam stated that no matter what you do there will always be a weed problem but if we get some of the transport problems under control then that is another step closer to getting weeds under control.

Commissioner Notbohm moved that the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners accept the Jefferson County Weed Board's proposed weed management plan for the years of 2006 and 2007. Commissioner Weber seconded. Motion carried.

Mr. Little then stated that he would like to take a moment to address the board with regards to weed management in new subdivisions. He stated that the county needs to make sure that the developers of these new subdivisions in the county are following the letter of the law with regards to an in place weed management plan. Mr. Little stated that as it stands now he feels that he does not see a weed management plan from either the Planning Board or the subdivision developer. He stated that he will no longer sign off on his part of Preliminary Plat Approval until he is given a comprehensive weed management plan. Commissioner Lythgoe stated that the Weed Board has the commissions full support.

CANCELLATION OF COUNTY WARRANTS

As presented by the Clerk & Recorder, Bonnie Ramey, the Commission has been asked to cancel the following warrants as per code 7-6-2607 (2) MCA. All of the following individuals were given over one year to claim these warrants and were also sent several letters letting them know that they were there. No correspondence from the Clerk & Records office to these individuals was aswered.

Warrant #34567	Issued: 10/7/2004	To: Jerry Green	Amount: \$25.00
Warrant #35314	Issued: 12/16/2004	To: Clancy VFD	Amount: \$129.69
Warrant#35444	Issued: 12/30/2004	To: Sandy Fadness	Amount: \$14.43

Also Clerk of Court, Marilyn Craft, requested that a juror warrant be cancelled as per 7-6-2607.

Warrant #93043	Issued: 5/20/04	To: Kerry Clavert	Amount: \$75.50
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Commissioner Lythgoe moved that the pervious stated warrants be cancelled. Commissioner Weber seconded. Motion carried.

NORTHERN JEFFERSON COUNTY ZONING COMMISSION

Commissioner Lythgoe moved that the following individuals be appointed to the Northern Jefferson County Zoning Commission.

1. Marlyn Atkins
2. Allan Erickson
3. Ken Vivrette
4. Ed Hall

5. Bruce Suenran
6. Kris Minard

Also to sit on the commission will be:

1. Bonnie Ramey, Clerk & Recorder
2. Harold Stepper, County Planner
3. Jefferson County Board of Commissioners

Commissioner Notbohm seconded. Motion carried.

MOSQUITO BOARD

Commissioner Lythgoe moved that Gene Compton be re-appointed to the Jefferson County Mosquito Board. Commissioner Weber seconded. Motion carried.

Commissioner Weber moved to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Notbohm seconded.

MEETING ADJOURNED

ATTEST:

BONNIE RAMEY
CLERK AND RECORDER

TOMAS E. LYTHGOE, CHAIR

CHUCK NOTBOHM, COMMISSIONER

KEN WEBER, COMMISSIONER